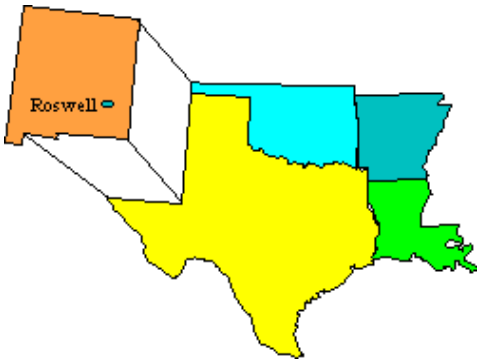
McGaffey & Main Ground Water Plume
Roswell, New Mexico
Chaves County



EPA Region 6
EPA ID# NM0000605386
Site ID: 0605386
State Congressional District: 2
Fact Sheet Updated: July, 2004

SITE DESCRIPTION

Location: The McGaffey and Main Ground Water Plume Site is located within the city limits of Roswell, Chaves County, in southeastern New Mexico.

Setting: The contamination is primarily found in an aquifer underlying a mixed commercial and industrial section of the city of Roswell, about two miles south of the central business district. The site consists of perchoroethylene (PCE) contamination that has been identified as a ground water plume that may extend up to one mile in a southeasterly direction from the intersection of Main Street and McGaffey Street.

The suspected source of the PCE is a series of defunct dry cleaning facilities, which operated from approximately 1956-1963. The precise extent of the plume has not yet been identified.

Population: The city of Roswell municipal supply system is composed of 20 municipal supply wells. The system serves a population of approximately 48,000 individuals. Eight schools and one hospital are located within one mile of the site. Approximately 9,600 individuals receive their drinking water from five City of Roswell municipal wells located within four miles of the site.

PRESENT STATUS AND ISSUES

- EPA is conducting the Remedial Investigation portion of the project in phases that started in early 2002 and is expected to last until late 2003.

- The Phase III sampling was completed in October 2003, it included soil vapor monitoring, indoor air monitoring, and ground water monitoring. Additional sampling is planned for August 2004 for indoor air, this sampling event will conclude the sampling investigation at the site.

- EPA would like to extend its sincere appreciation to all the residents, property owners, and business operators who were helpful and cooperative during the Phase III activities**.**

WASTES AND VOLUMES

- The primary contaminant of concern is PCE, a chlorinated solvent, has been found at levels up to 25,000 micrograms per liter (µg/L) in the ground water. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), or Federal Drinking Water Standard, that is allowed under the Safe Drinking

Water Act is 5 µg/L.

- Chlorinated solvents are heavier than water and readily sink in ground water. An exact or calculated volume of the chlorinated solvent (PCE) released into the ground water at the former site of several dry cleaners is unknown at this time. However, very small amounts of these chemicals can contaminate large volumes of soil and ground water.

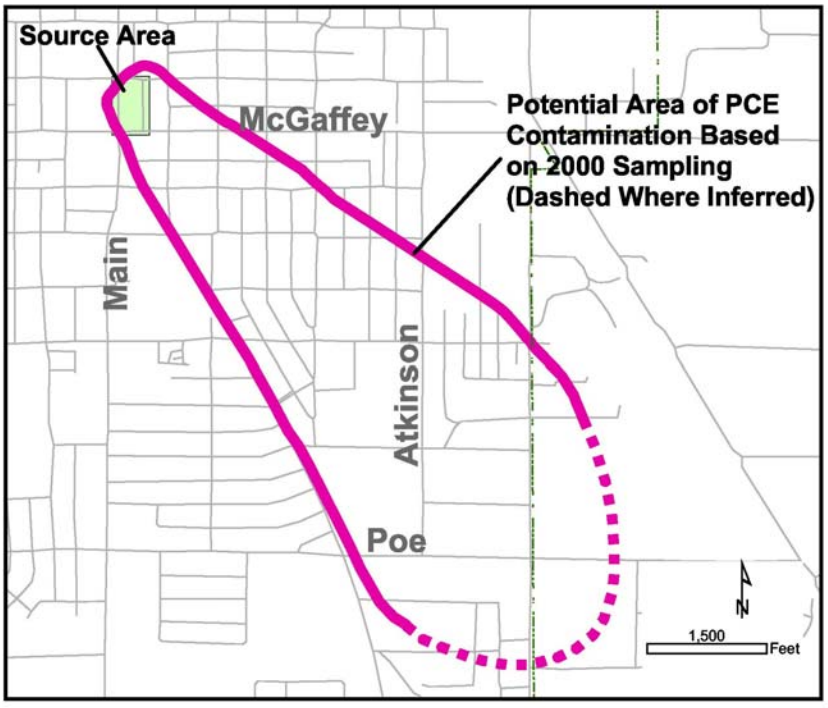
- The primary media affected by PCE contamination is the ground water, although residual contamination is still found in the deep soils. Because the contamination is found only in the subsurface, it is safe for people to live, work, and visit the area in the immediate vicinity of the former dry cleaning facilities.

- The 2001 City of Roswell Annual Drinking Water Quality Report states that the municipal drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements which means that the city water is safe to drink. Recent site data also indicate that contaminaiton from the McGaffey and Main Site is not affecting the City water supply, and will not do so in the near future.

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date:	September 13, 2001
NPL Inclusion Final Date:	October 24, 2002
NPL Deletion Proposal Date:	n/a
NPL Final Deletion Date:	n/a

SITE MAP



SITE HISTORY

- 1956-1963: Several dry cleaning facilities operated in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

- November 1994: Sight Discovery - The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) discovered the ground water plume following the investigation of a leaky underground storage tank at the former Pepsi Cola bottling plant.

- February 1995: The NMED identified and sampled a total of 15 private domestic ground water wells and irrigation wells downgradient of the dry cleaning facility. Most of these wells contained at least trace quantities of PCE.

- Spring 1995: Three residences whose sole source of water (including drinking) was from their domestic wells are connected to the Roswell municipal water supply because their wells had concentrations of PCE above the federal drinking water standards.

- Summer 1995: The NMED conducted a limited shallow ground water investigation. The highest concentrations of PCE were located directly adjacent to the former dry cleaning facility.

- July 1997: The NMED performed domestic well sampling and a door-to-door well survey.

- September 2000: The NMED sampled 17 domestic and irrigation wells downgradient of the site. Thirteen of the wells contained at least trace quantities of PCE.

- Annually from 1998-2001: The NMED sampled site monitoring wells which continued to show contamination by PCE.

- September 2001: EPA proposed that the McGaffey and Main Ground Water Plume Site be listed as a Federal Superfund Site on the National Priorities List.

HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

There is a potential for elevated health/ecological risk levels associated with chlorinated hydrocarbon compounds like PCE and some of the breakdown products of that compound. PCE is the leading concern at this site because it is a probable human carcinogen and because it has been found at concentrations that are above the drinking water standards in some wells.

Other Health Considerations:

- Thirteen of the 16 domestic ground water and irrigation wells downgradient of the site sampled in April through September 2000, contained PCE, some at concentrations higher than the Maximum Contamination Limit (MCL) of 5.0 µg/L. (These wells are not the sole source of water for these residences.)

- Three residences in the vicinity of the site whose sole source of water (including drinking) was found to be contaminated with PCE above the MCL were connected to the city of Roswell municipal water system in 1995.

- Since 1995, PCE has been detected intermittently in two municipal supply wells at concentrations ranging from 0.3 µg/L to 2.3 µg/L, which is below the MCL of 5 µg/L.

RECORD OF DECISION

Record of Decision: Not Yet Available

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Site Mailing List:	900
EPA Open House Meetings:	June 11, 2002
ATSDR Open House Meeting:	October 22, 2002
Site Repository:	Roswell Public Library 301 North Pennsylvania Roswell, New Mexico 505-622-7101

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

Availability Notices:	October 5, 2001
Letter of Intent Received:	None to date.

SITE CONTACTS

EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Terry Roundtree	214-665-6518 or 1-800-533-3508
EPA Site Attorney:	James Costello	214-665-8045 or 1-800-533-3508
EPA Community Involvement:	Beverly Negri	214-665-8157 or 1-800-533-3508
NMED Project Manager:	Carl Albury	505-827-0039
EPA Ombudsman:	Arnold Ondarza	1-800-533-3508
ATSDR:	Patrick Young	214-665-8562
EPA RI/FS Contractor:	CH2MHill	

REALIZED CLEANUP BENEFITS

- Remediation of the ground water will reduce the health and ecological risk associated with the contaminants by protecting the public water supply wells and private residential wells from impacts from the site contaminants.

- Remediation of the ground water will encourage future investments in the business district.